

15 element is in a zipped-open position permits the driver-side front door to be opened while said flexible sheet remains in place over the vehicle[.]; and

20 wherein said flexible sheet further comprises a protective sleeve having first and second ends, wherein said first end is fixedly secured to said first region of said flexible sheet around an opening through said flexible sheet first region, said protective sleeve including an elastic band attached to and encircling said second end, said protective sleeve elastic band expandable to allow insertion of a door mirror therethrough during placement of said flexible sheet over the vehicle, wherein said elastic band elastically conforms to a periphery of a support arm of the door mirror, thereby permitting door mirror visibility during cover use while preventing contaminants from entering said protective sleeve.

2. (Once Amended) The vehicle cover of claim 1 wherein said flexible sheet [is formed by interconnecting] comprises a plurality of interconnected sheet pieces custom structured and assembled to substantially conform to an exterior shape of a specific vehicle type for which cover use is intended.

10. (Once Amended) A cover for a vehicle including outer body panels with finished exterior surfaces, comprising:

5 means arrangeable over the vehicle for covering at least substantially all of the finished exterior surfaces of the outer body panels of the vehicle, said covering means comprising a base sheet including a plurality of openings adapted to overlay windows of the vehicle when said covering means is arranged over the vehicle, said covering means comprising a bottom edge, said bottom edge comprising upwardly recessed sections aligned with all of the wheel wells of the vehicle; and

10 elastic means for retaining said covering means on the vehicle during vehicle transport, said elastic means attached to said covering means proximate [a] the bottom edge of said covering means and disposed along at least [a majority portion] substantially all of a vehicle encircling length of said bottom edge, wherein said elastic retaining means is disposed along the entire lengths of said upwardly recessed sections of said covering means to cause said upwardly recessed sections to bow
15 inwardly into the wheel wells to limit contaminants from reaching underneath the covering means while said covering means remains clear of contact with vehicle wheels in the wheel wells during driving of the vehicle.

A2
5 11 11. (Once Amended) The cover of claim 10 wherein said elastic retaining means comprises [an] a continuous elastic strip attached lengthwise along [at least substantially all of said] the entire vehicle encircling length of said bottom edge, said elastic strip having an unextended length less than a length of said bottom edge to which said strip is attached, whereby said bottom edge is arranged in a gathered together fashion when said elastic strip is unextended.

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11 13. (Once Amended) The cover of claim 10 [wherein said covering means comprises a base sheet including a plurality of openings adapted to overlay windows of the vehicle when said covering means is arranged over the vehicle,] wherein said covering means further comprises a plurality of transparent sheets sized to cover said plurality of base sheet openings, each of said plurality of transparent sheets being fixedly attached to said base sheet to cover a different base sheet opening, thereby allowing driver visibility through said base sheet openings while preventing contaminants from passing through said base sheet openings to a location between said base sheet and the vehicle.

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5 14 15 17. (Once Amended) A vehicle cover comprising:
a flexible sheet structured and arranged to closely fit over a vehicle, said flexible sheet comprising a first sheet portion for covering a vehicle roof, a second sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a front of the vehicle including a hood and a front bumper, a third sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a back of a vehicle including a rear bumper, a fourth sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a first side of the vehicle including a driver-side front door, and a fifth sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a second side of the vehicle including a passenger-side front door;

wherein each of said second sheet portion, said third sheet portion, said fourth sheet portion, and said fifth sheet portion comprises at least one opening adapted to overlay a different vehicle window when the flexible sheet is fitted over the vehicle;

15 a plurality of transparent sheets for covering the at least one opening in said second sheet portion, said third sheet portion, said fourth sheet portion, and said fifth sheet portion, each of said plurality of transparent sheets fixedly attached to said

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flexible sheet, thereby allowing driver visibility through said flexible sheet openings while hindering contaminants from passing through said flexible sheet openings to a location between said flexible sheet and the vehicle; [and]

at least one elastic strip attached to said flexible sheet proximate a bottom edge of said second sheet portion and said third sheet portion and at regions of said second and third sheet portions engageable with the underside of the vehicle to thereby retain said flexible sheet on the vehicle[.]; and

wherein said flexible sheet further comprises a protective sleeve having first and second ends, wherein said first end is fixedly secured to said fourth sheet portion of said flexible sheet around an opening through said flexible sheet fourth sheet portion, said protective sleeve including an elastic band attached to and encircling said second end, said protective sleeve elastic band expandable to allow insertion of a door mirror therethrough during placement of said flexible sheet over the vehicle, wherein said elastic band elastically conforms to a periphery of a support arm of the door mirror, thereby permitting door mirror visibility during cover use while preventing contaminants from entering said protective sleeve.

Please add claims 22-25 as follows:

22. A vehicle cover comprising:

a flexible sheet structured and arranged for placement over a vehicle to overlay finished exterior surfaces of multiple outer body parts of the vehicle, said flexible sheet comprising a first region and a second region, wherein said flexible sheet first region covers at least a majority portion of the finished exterior surface of a driver-side front door of the vehicle when said flexible sheet is placed over the vehicle, wherein said flexible sheet second region covers at least a portion of both a roof of the vehicle and the finished exterior surface of the vehicle body part located rearward of the driver-side front door when said flexible sheet is placed over the vehicle;

a zipper having a slider element and mating elements connected to facing edge portions of said first and second regions of said flexible sheet, wherein said zipper when said slider element is in a zipped-closed position bridges said facing edge portions of said first and second regions, and wherein said zipper when said slider

15 element is in a zipped-open position permits the driver-side front door to be opened while said flexible sheet remains in place over the vehicle; and

means for releasably attaching said flexible sheet first region onto an upper, rearward corner of the driver-side front door of the vehicle to prevent said flexible sheet first region from falling down when said zipper slider element is disposed in a zipped-open position to allow driver-side front door opening.

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~~23~~. The vehicle cover of claim ²⁰~~22~~ wherein said means for releasably attaching said flexible sheet first region comprises a fabric flap that forms a door-corner receiving pocket with a vehicle-facing surface of said flexible sheet first region.

²²
~~24~~. A vehicle cover comprising:
a flexible sheet structured and arranged to closely fit over a vehicle, said flexible sheet comprising a first sheet portion for covering a vehicle roof, a second sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a front of the vehicle including a hood and a front bumper, a third sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a back of a vehicle including a rear bumper, a fourth sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a first side of the vehicle including a driver-side front door, and a fifth sheet portion depending from said first sheet portion for covering at least substantially all of a second side of the vehicle including a passenger-side front door;

10 wherein each of said second sheet portion, said third sheet portion, said fourth sheet portion, and said fifth sheet portion comprises at least one opening adapted to overlay a different vehicle window when the flexible sheet is fitted over the vehicle;

15 a plurality of transparent sheets for covering the at least one opening in said second sheet portion, said third sheet portion, said fourth sheet portion, and said fifth sheet portion, each of said plurality of transparent sheets fixedly attached to said flexible sheet, thereby allowing driver visibility through said flexible sheet openings while hindering contaminants from passing through said flexible sheet openings to a
20 location between said flexible sheet and the vehicle;

at least one elastic strip attached to said flexible sheet proximate a bottom edge of said second sheet portion and said third sheet portion and at regions of said second